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Office of Public Health

Il University Place Albany, New York 12203-3399

Barbara A. DeBuono, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner

Karen Schimke Executive Deputy Commissioner

May 8, 1995

Mr. Anthony J. Sabino Counsel Bethpage Water District 25 Adams Avenue Bethpage, NY 11714-1304

> RE: Navy Off-site Soil Sampling Site No. 130003b Bethpage/Nassau County

Dear Mr. Sabino:

I have received your April 10, 1995 letter regarding the Navy's off-site soil sampling, Bethpage, New York. In your letter, you state that you believe additional testing in the areas where PCBs were detected should be performed. I have compared the residential soil sampling data to sampling data compiled in other areas of New York State. Trace levels of PCBs (approximately 0.1 parts per million) are commonly found in urban and suburban/industrial settings throughout the State. Since only trace levels of PCBs were found in 2 of the 11 private yards tested, I do not believe it is necessary to ask the Navy to do further testing of private properties at this time. However, I agree that the areas where PCBs were detected above the 1 ppm guideline warrant further evaluation.

Sample locations SS-08 and SS-13 were designated by the Navy as industrial property and contained PCBs at 3.52J and 5.0J parts per million respectively. The residential PCB guidance value of 1 ppm may be more appropriately applied to these two locations due to their proximity to the residential community. Therefore, I agree that more testing may be required in that area.

Although PCBs are present on the Navy property, it would be very difficult to link off-site PCBs to this or other sources that may exist in the area.

The Nassau County Health Department also believes that the industrial properties designated by the Navy for sampling will require more testing.

If you have any questions, please call me at 518-458-6305.

Sincerely,

Timothy E. Vickerson

Assistant Sanitary Engineer

Simoly E. Villeson

Bureau of Environmental Exposure

Investigation

lmw/95117PRO0222

cc: Dr. A. Carlson

Mr. S. Bates/Mr. G. Laccetti

Mr. J. DeFranco - NCHD

Mr. J. Colter - Navy